

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 141449  
ORIGIN OC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CCO-00 OCL-00 /017 R

66011

DRAFTED BY A/OC-AF:RLLOCHMILLER

APPROVED BY A/OC:WENAEHER

-----080468 060317Z /63

O 051706Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 141449

ACCRA FOR RCO MONROVIA FOR ATO

FOLLOWING RPT CZAMISH/KINSHASA O 011533Z JUN 78 ACTION  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ3-BS/ECJ4/7-SA/ECCM-B// INFO  
SECDEF WASHDC, SECSTATE WASHDC, USCINCRED MACDILL AFB FL,  
CINCMAC SCOTT AFB IL, CSAF WASHDC, USDAO PARIS, USDAO DAKAR,  
HQ RAMSTEIN AB GE//CC//MACE//, 21 AF MACGUIRE AFB NJ//DO//,  
JCS WASHDC

QUOTE S E C R E T 040

SUBJ: ZAIRE AIRLIFT SUPPORT (U)

REF: A. CS 311959Z MAY 78 (S)

1. (S) REFERENCE INDUCATES EXECUTE ORDER TO PROVIDE UP TO 31 AIRLIFT MISSIONS IN SUPPORT OF FRENCH RETROGRADE FROM ZAIRE.
2. (U) ZAMISH IS READY TO PROVIDE MAXIMUM SUPPORT. THE PUJPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO ADVISE THOSE HEADQUARTERS CONCERNED OF THE LESSONS LEARNED (AS VIEWED BY ZAMISH) FROM U.S. AIRLIFT SUPPORT OPERATIONS DURING 13-26 MAY PERIOD AND HOPEFULLY AVOID SOME OF THE PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED.
3. (C) AIRCRAFT FLOW CONTROL. (A) RAMP CONGESTION AT KINSHASA BECAME UNACCEPTABLE, DANGEROUS, AND UNMANAGEABLE DURING 19, 20, AND

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 141449

21 MAY. AT ONE POINT, 37 AIRCRAFT, CIVILIAN AND MILITARY, JAMMED THE

AIRFIELD. IT WAS ONLY BY LUCK THAT NO TAXI ACCIDENTS OR PERSONNEL INJURIES OCCURED. STRONGLY RECOMMEND A TWO HOUR LANDING INTERVAL BE PLANNED FOR ALL MAC AIRCRAFT TRANSITING KINSHASA. (B) ONLY TWO REFUELING PITS AND PUMPS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AVAILABLE. RON AICRAFT SHOULD BE REFUELED PRIOR TO PARKING. (C) NO MORE THAN 6

AIRCRAFT SHOULD BE PLANNED TO BE PARKED KINSHASA FOR RON PURPOSES.

4. (C) ALCE SUPPORT. (A) ALCE ARRIVED WITHOUT INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT, AN AIRFLOW PLAN, OR MANAGEMENT TOOLS SUCH AS WALL CHARTS. ZAMISH SUPPORT WILL AGAIN BE AVAILABLE, HOWEVER ALCE

SHOULD STRY TO BRING SUFFICIENT VEHICLES, PORTABLE RADIOS, FOOD FOR DURATION OF STAY, AND WATER CONTAINERS FOR TRANSPORT OF POTABLE WATER

(B) THE UYA-7 "SUITACE" RADIO WAS marginally effective. ZAMISH WAS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE COURIER SERVICE BETWEEN EMBASSY AND ALCE FOR SECURE MESSAGE TRAFFIC. THIS IS A FIFTY-MILE ROUND TRIP. PERHAPS A COMBAT CONTROL TEAM WITH A MK-107 JEEP WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE. IN ANY EVENT REDUNDANT COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. (C) TWO FR ENCH

SPEAKING ZAMISH PERSONNEL WERE AT THE ALCE 24 HOURS DAILY WORKING OVERLAPPING 16-HOUR SHIFTS, ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING SUPPORT FROM VARIOUS

AIRFIELD AGENCIES. WE ARE PREPARED TO DO THIS AGAIN; HOWEVER A DAYLIGHT-TO-DARK OPERATION WOULD BE LESS DEMANDING ON OUR LIMITED RESOURCES.

5. (C) CREW REST. THE SAME REST FACILITY WILL AGAIN BE AVAILABLE AND CAN SLEEP UP TO 150-200 PERSONNEL; HOWEVER LOCAL FOOD SUPPLY WAS SHORTLY EXHAUSTED. FOOD IS BECOMING SCARE IN KINSHASA AS FRENCH AND BELGIANS HAVE BEEN BUYING LARGE QUANTITIES FOR THEIR TROOPS. EMBASSY RESERVE C-RATIONS ARE ALSO EXHAUSTED. ALL AIRCREWS SHOULD BRING SUFFICIENT RATIONS FOR THEIR NEEDS WHILE IN ZAIRE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 141449

POTABLE WATER IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THE AIRPORT OR THE CREW REST FACILITY, NOR ARE SOAP, TOILET PAPER, OR TOWELS.

6. (U) CREW TRANSPORT. EMBASSY HAS 4 MAZDA BUSES AVAILABLE THAT ARE USED TO TRANSPORT DEPENDENTS TO SCHOOL. THESE BUSES WERE BORROWED FOR

CREW TRANSPORT, BUT WERE ONLY AVAILABLE OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS, CAUSING SOME DELAYS. LAST DAY OF SCHOOL HERE IS 9 JUNE. CREW REST FACILITY IS 20 MILES EAST OF N'DJILI AIRPORT, 45 MILES FROM KINSHASA

7. (C) INFORMATION/ ACTION REQUESTS. (A) ZAMISH/DAO RECEIVED NUMEROUS REQUESTS FROM VARIOUS COMMAND POST DUTY OFFICERS AND OTHER AGENCIES FOR INFORMATION AVAILABLE ELSEWHERE, VIA DMAAC OR FLIP PUBLICATIONS, SUCH AS RUNWAY LENGTHS, LOAD BEARING CAPACITY, ETC; AS WELL AS REQUESTS FOR THE STATUS OF THE AIRLIFT ITSELF. THE LATTER INFORMATION IS MAINTAINED BY MAC COMMAND CHANNELS, AND CAN BE REQUESTED FROM THEM. PERIODIC SITREPS WERE ALSO ISSUED BY MAC ANDS CONTAINED THE LATEST AIRLIFT SUMMARIES. REQUEST NORMAL MILITARY SOURCES

BE CHECKED PRIOR TO TASKING LIMITED EMBASSY RESOURCES. (B) IF NECESSARY, DAO KINSHASA SHOULD BE ACTION ADDRESSES FOR ALL INFORMATION/ INTELLIGENCE REQUESTS. (C) ZAMISH, AS THE OFFICE RESPONSIBLE FOR

MAC LIAISON, WILL ARRANGE FOR AIRPORT FACILITY SUPPORT AS WAS DONE BEFORE. (D). FUEL SUPPLIES WILL BE MONITORED IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH PETRO-ZAIRE, AND PASSED TO THE ALCE FOR RELAY TO MAC COMMAND CHANNELS.

8. (C) ZAMISH AUGMENTATION. IT IS FELT THAT AN AUGMENTATION IS NOT REQUIRED SO LONG AS OPERATION IS LIMITED TO A SIMPLE AIRLIFT AND NO FURTHER GROUND COMBAT OCCURS. PERIODIC ALCE SITREPS PLUS MAC SITREPS WILL BE USED TO KEEP AMBASSADOR INFORMED.

9. (U) ADDITIONAL C141 SERVICING ITEM. AN AIRLINE "HONEY TRUCK" IS AVAILABLE TO SERVICE C141 AIRCRAFT TOILETS; HOWEVER, A SPECIAL ADAPTOR FITTING IS REQUIRED TO MATCH THE HOSE TO THE AIRCRAFT. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT SUCH A FITTING IS AVAILABLE IN MAC FOR C141 USE. SERVICING DURING THE LAST OPERATION WAS ACCOMPLISHED BY DUMPING THE CONTENTS OF THE AIRCRAFT TOILET ON TO THE RAMP.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 141449

10. (U) FOR USCINCEUR. A MORE DETAILED AFTER ACTION REPORT WILL BE DESPATCHED TO YOU IN NEAR FUTURE. FYI: IN SPITE OF PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED ABOVE, AIRLIFT SUPPORT OPERATION WAS CARRIED OUT SUCCESSFULLY IN USUAL U.S. PROFESSIONAL MILITARY MANNER, THANKS TO THE DEDICATION AND INITIATIVE OF PERSONNEL INVOLVED.

GDS-31 DEC 86

UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY AIRLIFTS, MILITARY LOGISTICS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE141449  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** AF:RLLOCHMILLER  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780239-1243  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780695/aaaaddys.tel  
**Line Count:** 144  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** a17b3d92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN OC  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2487678  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ZAIRE AIRLIFT SUPPORT (U)  
**TAGS:** MASS, MOPS, CG, FR, US  
**To:** ACCRA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a17b3d92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014